

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Siam

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DATE DISTR. 7 Mar 1949

SUBJECT Soviet Attempts to Purchase Tin and Tungsten in Siam

NO. OF PAGES 1

25X1A

PLACE ACQUIRED

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

DATE OF INFO. Unstated

25X1X

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

1. Persons connected with the Soviet Legation in Siam are said to be arranging for purchases of tin concentrates, averaging approximately 70 percent tin. Several small Chinese firms have been approached to act as purchasing agents. The purchases are to be made in United States dollars.*
2. The same Chinese firms were also asked to purchase tungsten for the USSR, but Siamese production of tungsten is relatively small.
3. A number of (sic) Soviet technical men have reportedly visited the tin producing area of Phuket and have expressed an interest in the present output and productive capacity of that region.**

25X1X

* ~~Comment.~~ Such purchases, when transacted clandestinely, make it possible for the seller to retain all foreign exchange. In open sales, such as those to the United States, the seller must relinquish 50 percent of the foreign exchange to the Bank of Siam.

25X1A

** ~~dated~~ 1 September 1948, reported that the Soviets were offering up to 10,000 tons of paper or flour at a time in exchange for tin ore through the medium of Chinese contractors in south Siam. See also ~~which~~ reported the trip of A. A. Panteleimonov, Soviet Commercial Attache in Siam, to Phuket to investigate the possibility of Soviet tin purchases in south Siam. This trip was made in late October 1948.

25X1A

Document No. 604
NO CHANGE in Class. ☐
~~DECLASSIFIED~~
Class. CHANGED TO: TS S C
DDA Memo, 4 Apr 77
Auth: DDA REG. 77/1763
Date: 5 MAY 1978 By: 016

CLASSIFICATION SECRET /CONTROL - U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY									
STATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NAVY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NSRB		DISTRIBUTION			
ARMY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	AIR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	FBI					

This document is hereby referred to
CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the
letter of 11 October 1948 from the
Director of Central Intelligence to the
Archivist of the United States.

~~SECRET~~